UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/733,087	12/11/2000	Fumitaka Murayama	001636	1950

7590 09/14/2004		**EXAMINER**
ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI, McLELAND & NAUGTON		MAURO JR, THOMAS J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2143	

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DATE MAILED: 09/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/733,087	MURAYAMA, FUMITAKA
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Thomas J. Mauro Jr.	2143

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>26 May 2004</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>8</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>8</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to the amendment filed May 26, 2004. Claims 1-7 have been

cancelled. Claim 8 has been newly added.

2.   Claim 8 is pending and is presented for examination. A formal action regarding the

merits of claim 8 follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schreiber et al.

(U.S. 6,209,103) in view of Schreiber et al. (U.S. 6,298,446) and further in view of Shiiyama

(U.S. 6,678,683).

        Regarding claim 8, Schreiber (U.S. 6,209,103) teaches a system for providing character

contents in the form of images, comprising:

        (a)   a contents providing system connected to a client terminal through a network such

that they can communicate with each other **[Schreiber -- Figure 1 and Col. 5 lines 14-20 and**

lines 28-32 – Client and server are connected over a network, i.e. the Internet., upon which

the server stores textual information];

(b)   storage means disposed in a server of the contents providing system for storing

character contents as character data [Schreiber -- Figure 1 and Col. 5 lines 19-21 and lines 28-

33 – Server contains storage areas for storing textual information, i.e. character data];

(c)   search means provided at the server for searching the storage means when there is

a request for retrieval of character contents from the client terminal to read the requested

character contents [Schreiber -- Figure 1 and Col. 5 lines 22-32 and lines 37-40 – Client

transmits requests through a web browser to server for textual information, i.e. character

content, such as documents or articles. Server stores textual information in a storage area,

which upon receiving the request from the client, determines, i.e. searches, whether the

information is available and whether it is in an area accessible or not accessible to the

client];

(d)   conversion means provided at the server for dynamically converting the read

character contents from character data to image data [Schreiber -- Figure 3 and Col. 5 lines 40-

49 – Textual information is rendered into a "non-text editable" format by rendering the

text into a special graphical format, such as GIF or JPEG, i.e. image data]; and

(e)   contents information transmission means provided at the server for transmitting

the image data as a result of the conversion of the character contents to the client terminal

[Schreiber -- Figure 3 and Col. 5 lines 51-55 – After rendering to graphical format is

complete, server sends non-text editable, i.e. graphical, information over network to client];

and

wherein the client terminal and the server of the contents providing system are connected to the internet **[Schreiber -- Figure 3 and Col. 5 lines 14-19 – Client and server are connected through a network which is the Internet]**.

In addition, Schreiber et al. (U.S. 6,209,103) does teach converting textual information into graphical information **[Schreiber -- Figure 3 and Col. 5 lines 40-49 – Textual information is rendered into a "non-text editable" format by rendering the text into a special graphical format, such as GIF or JPEG, i.e. image data]** and displaying results of a search **[Schreiber -- Col. 5 lines 27-29 and lines 46-50]**.

Schreiber et al. (U.S. 6,209,103) fails to explicitly teach determining whether the information needs to be protected, i.e. converted to image data and converting the character to data to image data when it is determined that the data must be protected, a front server and a back server connected to the Internet along with a database for storage and wherein the search means and conversion means are provided in the front server.

Schreiber (U.S. 6,298,446), however, teaches a system for protecting the copying or reuse of graphical images or textual information which provides a protection manager to specify whether the information is to be protected on an individual by individual basis **[Schreiber (U.S. 6,298,446) -- Figure 2 item 212, Col. 8 lines 35-67, Col. 11 lines 27-30, Col. 12 lines 3-11 and Col. 33 lines 5-15 – Server determines if information is protected by searching protection database. If information is to be protected, i.e. determined on an individual basis by folder or specific tags surrounding an object, such as <!protect> and <!/protect>, routine is run to protect information; otherwise, information is transmitted normally with no protection. This type of individual basis protection can be applied to image or text content]**.

In addition, Schreiber (U.S. 6,298,446) teaches a separate Web server area (102), i.e. front server

in server (100) which the user has access to and from which requests are made and content is

dynamically protected **[Schreiber (U.S. 6,298,446) -- Figure 1, Col. 9 lines 22-24 and lines 53-**

60 and Col. 10 lines 3-11 -- Clients request information through http request module (114)

and content is modified by webpage parser (116) and modifier (122)]. Additionally, the back

server is the remaining area of the server that the client does not have access to, i.e. the databases

and other stored information **[Schreiber (U.S. 6,298,446) -- Figure 1 and Col. 9 lines 24-31**

and lines 61-67 -- Actual web pages (104) along with the database (118) and images stored

on server (108 and 110) are in the back server, an area inaccessible to clients]. Also,

Schreiber teaches the use of a database to store information **[Schreiber (U.S. 6,298,446) --**

Figure 1 and Col. 9 lines 61-63].

Databases were notoriously well known at the time of the invention as a practical and easy way

to store information.

Finally, Schreiber (U.S. 6,298,446) teaches wherein the search means and conversion means are

provided in the front server **[Schreiber (U.S. 6,298,446) -- Figure 1, Col. 9 lines 53-60 and**

Col. 10 lines 3-11 -- Web server area (item 102) of server (100) is responsible for receiving

the http request (114) which then filters and searches for document/page. Furthermore,

web server area (102) is also responsible for parsing (116) and modifying (122) the

webpage, i.e. conversion].

Furthermore, Shiiyama discloses a document management system which allows full-text

searching by placing the character contents into a file for searching (full-text search index)

[Shiiyama -- Col. 2 lines 46-51, Col. 4 lines 21-40 and lines 55-65 -- Index of contents is

generated to allow full-text searching, a common and widely used functionality for documents and textual information].

Both Schreiber (U.S. 6,209,103) and Schreiber (U.S. 6,298,446) disclose methods for protecting text and images transmitted over a network from reuse or copying. In addition, Schreiber (U.S. 6,209,103), Schreiber (U.S. 6,298,446) and Shiiyama disclose systems for managing and protecting documents and their contents.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the determining of whether information needs to be protected, a front server and a back server connected to the Internet along with a database for storage and wherein the search means and conversion means are provided in the front server, as taught by Schreiber (U.S. 6,298,446) into the text and image reuse prevention system of Schreiber (U.S. 6,209,103), in order to give the administrator more control over the system to allow them to decide which information needs to be protected or which information they want protected and to provide a structured server which provides security to content stored on the server by only allowing client access to the front server while protecting other non-public files and information on the back server in addition to using a well-known and practical structure to store data.

In addition, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the index of contents for full-text searching, as taught by Shiiyama into the text and image reuse prevention system of Schreiber (U.S. 6,209,103), in order to more efficiently share document data **[Shiiyama -- Col. 1 lines 28-31]** while at the same time providing greater functionality to quickly find and locate documents of interest.

Response to Arguments

5.   Applicant's argument with respect to claim 8 has been considered but is moot in view of

the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Thomas J. Mauro Jr. whose telephone number is 703-605-1234.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00a.m. - 4:30p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, David A. Wiley can be reached on 703-308-5221. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TJM
September 7, 2004

JACK B. HARVEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER